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SIPDIS

SENSITIVE SIPDIS

DEPARTMENT FOR SCA/INS AND IO; GENEVA FOR RMA

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: PREF PREL PHUM ICRC CE

SUBJECT: SRI LANKA: DEMARCHE RESPONSE ON AMERICAN RED CROSS

CANDIDATE

REF: STATE 102873

(SBU) On July 26, Acting DCM and Econ Chief called on MFA Additional Secretary for UN and Multilateral Affairs Sarala Fernando to encourage the Government of Sri Lanka to support the candidacy of Steve Carr for the Standing Commission of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement. We also provided biographic information. Fernando was non-committal, asking whether voting for candidates was done by Governments or by the national societies within the Federation, indicating that the Foreign Ministry would not instruct the Sri Lankan national society how to vote. EmbOffs followed up by providing information to Fernando confirming that both governments and national societies take part in the voting for the Standing Commission. Post will follow up and report any updates septel.